

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

May 15, 2012

Present: Bill Spaetti, Charlie Waninger, Jack Kroeger, Steve Winsett, Dave Kress, Matt Knepper, Blake Bunner, Attorney John Wetherill, Auditor Jane Lynam

Meeting was called to order by the President Bill Spaetti at 5:38 P.M.

**ENHANCED ACCESS FUND**

Sharon Dugas explained that she was requesting an ordinance be set up so she could deposit funds. Indiana Code (IC 5-14-3-8.3) states that since we have online research the Council must adopt an ordinance establishing an enhanced access fund. Money is available now to put into the fund as soon as it is set up. Wetherill will look into getting the fund set up.

**ADDITIONALS**

***Drainage-Rainy Day Fund \$24,850.00***

Mr. Logsdon explained that in January after meeting with the Drainage Advisory Board and on behalf of the Drainage Board the Surveyor and himself had come to the Council and asked for \$49,850. from Rainy Day Fund for drainage projects. You gave \$25,000 and said when it was gone to come back. Projects on Garrett Creek, Pigeon Creek Tributary, Anderson River and money for chemicals has left a balance of \$285.38. We are now requesting an additional \$24,850 from Rainy Day Fund to get us through projects designated for the remainder of 2012. Kress made a motion to approve the \$24,850, Winsett seconded the motion, motion passed.

***Sheriff-Gas, Oil, & Lube \$65,000.00***

Ron Heady spoke for the Sheriffs office and explained that previously the bills had not been correct because the Highway Dept. was paying for all the gas. Heady said that Sheriff Lindsey felt this amount would catch them up on previous bills and carry them through the remainder of 2012. Winsett made a motion to approve the \$65,000, Kress seconded the motion, motion passed.

***Circuit Court-Pauper Attorney \$3,780.00***

Judge Dartt said that the Court is part of the state reimbursement program, this is the next round of fees that we are to reimbursed for. We are asking for approval from you to get this from County General for our Pauper Attorney fees. Bunner made a motion to approve the \$3,780., Waninger seconded the motion, motion approved.

***Treasurer-Printer, Scanner, Copier \$3,999.00***

Anita Frakes asked for an additional to purchase a new printer, scanner, copier for the Treasurers Office. After some discussion Kroeger made a motion to deny and have Frakes re-advertise next month out of Cum Cap instead of county general. Knepper seconded the motion, motion approved.

***Animal Control \$30,815.00***

David Gogel spoke on behalf of the Animal Control Board and explained that the fund numbers were wrong on our original budget worksheet, so there was no county general approved budget for animal control. It should have been fund number 100-142, not fund 204; 204 is a holding fund. This was approved in the original budget, just the wrong fund. Original budget was for \$ 30,815.00; so he is asking basically to have the budget approved again. Bunner asked if \$20,000 would be enough since they aren't open yet. Gogel said they would take whatever amount they could give. Winsett made a motion to approve the \$20,000, Bunner seconded the motion, motion approved.

***Bruce Cissna-Town of Dale- Businessmen***

Bruce Cissna introduced Russ Winkler and Ray Striegel, Town Council President. Russ Winkler spoke on behalf of a group of businessmen from Dale. The new 231 has taken a tremendous amount of business out of Dale; 3 businesses in one city block have closed in the last year. They would like to recover the Holiday World traffic that was lost due to the new 231. Since they have no money, they would like some help from the county. This money would be used to hire a planner to help recoup losses already incurred. They would like to ask for \$15,000 from CEDIT funds. Cissna said they felt that Dale was the front door to the county from the north also the east and west, and would like to see something done to help Dale. The town of Dale would act as the funding agent; town council would keep track of the money. Winsett commended the people of Dale for taking the initiative, but would like to see some from of commitment from businesses in Dale similar to what the Animal Control did. Other members felt the same, after more discussion Kroeger said he would like to see an overall financial plan from Dale before asking for money from the Council. Spaetti said the Council is willing to listen, so if they could come back next month with some kind of plan for the Council to look at they would go from there.

***Legal Report***

Wetherill said he would segue the legal report into old business. Wetherill passed out copies of the Resolution that the Redevelopment Commission and the Commissioners had already recommended. This is money from the AK Steel settlement to be disbursed:

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| 1. <i>Spencer County Cum Cap Development Fund</i>                | <i>\$19,587.00</i>  |
| 2. <i>Grass Township Cum Fire Fund</i>                           | <i>\$24,571.00</i>  |
| 3. <i>North Spencer School Corporation Capital Projects Fund</i> | <i>\$258,604.00</i> |

#### **4. South Spencer School Corporation Capital Projects Fund \$65,874.00**

Winsett asked if these were the actual shortfall amounts from Cum Cap? Kroeger replied that H J Umbaugh did the calculations, these are the actual numbers that the taxing units would have collected had AK Steel reported their assessed values correctly. Kress stated that this is exactly where the money should be going, to the entities that lost it. Wetherill and Lindsey agreed that if the Council approved the recommendation it should be advertised before it was disbursed. Lindsey wanted everyone to remember that this money is in a bank account that the Redevelopment Commission set up under the instructions of the Commissioners, County Council, and the Redevelopment Commission with the understanding that none of the money would be spent without resolutions being approved by all three boards. Kress made a motion to approve Resolution 2012-07A, Waninger seconded the motion, motion approved.

#### **Old Business**

Tom Utter spoke for the feasibility study of opening up the 231 corridor north. He presented numbers/amounts that other entities have agreed to put into the study and asked Spencer County to join in funding with the amount of \$25,000. Dan Koch said that this would give the county a chance to compete in the global economy. If we could get 231 extended to connect in to I-69 whether it be 231 four lane or I-67 the money coming into this county would be tremendous. Use the \$25,000 to seek state and federal funds to get a highway built. Spaetti asked how long the study would take. Ken Mulzer Jr. said the study is already in progress, most of Indiana data is done, the Kentucky section is where they are focusing their attention. They are hoping to have this study done by November. Kress remarked that if this turns into an interstate farmers won't be able to access it with their equipment. This is a rural community, and we need to keep this in mind. Kroeger asked if this study is to promote an interstate or is it to study the best way to get a four-lane highway north? The 231 through Spencer County is tremendous, not only for interstate commerce, but for the farmers. Utter responded that is a feasibility study to decide which would be best; how to get a better highway north. Interstate 67 Corp is where the money will go. Kroeger said the Redevelopment Commission and the Commissioners have already voted to support the \$25,000 but we don't have a formal request so we can't act on it anyway. He felt that we should participate in the study but keep the four lane highway, not necessarily an interstate. The Council needs to have some long term vision.

Spaetti asked Bruce Kanipe if in his business at the port it would make a big difference if it were an interstate or a four lane highway. Kanipe said he agreed that the farmers were important, but he thought that this study was the first step in getting this thing started. The community will grow, but it will just take time. The new Bridge was a stepping stone for Rockport an interstate would be in the best interest of Spencer County. Utter responded that when big companies look for somewhere to locate, they look for the interstate symbols on the map. Spaetti explained that about half the roads have been closed because of the new 231 and if we do an interstate more roads will be closed, limiting access; these are concerns that we have to take into consideration. Waninger asked what area the feasibility study actually covers, Bowling Green to Daviess County and how many miles of construction would this be? Mulzer answered that it was Bowling Green to Washington and he knew it was 38 miles of new construction from I-64 to Daviess County but, wasn't sure of the exact mileage for the whole project. Mulzer stated that the corporation is actually looking at an interstate, but this is only a feasibility study and they may come back and say an interstate isn't feasible. Kress asked if the federal government hadn't already done a study and decided not to do this. He said he was all for a four lane, but not an interstate. Lindsey responded that was actually INDOT and they ran out of money and stopped. Bunner ask what if we don't put any money into the study, what is the likely hood of this happening, is the road contingent on Spencer County contributing the \$25,000.00? Utter said he didn't think this road improvement was contingent on Spencer County contributing the \$25,000.00 to the fund. After much discussion Kroeger made a motion to approve the \$25,000.00 of the AK Steel settlement that the Commissioners and the Redevelopment Commission had already approved in support of the extension of a four lane highway north. Knepper seconded the motion. Vote was Knepper, Spaetti, and Kroeger for, and Bunner, Waninger, Winsett and Kress opposed. Motion did not pass. There was more discussion and Waninger stated that he is not in favor of an interstate, but he would make a motion to approve \$12,500.00 for the feasibility study. Spaetti seconded the motion.

Vote was Knepper, Kroeger, Waninger and Spaetti in favor; Kress, Winsett and Bunner opposed.

Motion passed. Kroeger asked Wetherill to write a letter stating we would love to have a four lane highway going north, but we are not in favor of an interstate. Pat Koch spoke and said that everyone has to work together to get what we want.

Motion to adjourn by Winsett, second by Kress, motion approved. Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 P.M.

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President

Attest